

Media Bill

AMENDMENTS
TO BE MOVED
IN COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE HOUSE

After Clause 27

BARONESS BENJAMIN

After Clause 27, insert the following new Clause –

“Review of children’s access to public service broadcast content

Within six months of the passing of this Act, the Secretary of State must prepare and publish a report on how to ensure that children have access to public service broadcast content.”

Member's explanatory statement

This new clause would require a review of how to ensure children have access to public service content, given their viewing habits which include using smartphones and social media rather than traditional methods of linear and even on-demand television.

After Clause 51

LORD FOSTER OF BATH

After Clause 51, insert the following new Clause –

“OFCOM Chair discharging duties under this Act

- (1) Before appointing an individual as Chair of OFCOM, the Secretary of State must ensure that their preferred candidate appears before relevant select committees of both Houses of Parliament to set out how they would discharge their duties under this Act.
- (2) If a relevant select committee of either House publishes a report concluding that the candidate should not be appointed, and the Secretary of State decides to proceed with the appointment, they must make a statement to either House about why they are proceeding with the appointment, including but not limited to –
 - (a) an assessment of that candidate’s ability to act independently in discharging their duties under this Act; and
 - (b) a response to any findings or recommendations made in a report by a relevant select committee.”

Member's explanatory statement

This amendment seeks to increase parliamentary scrutiny of proposed OFCOM chairs in discharging their duties under this Act.

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